CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A system for accessing network-accessible devices comprising:

multiple network-accessible devices, each device comprising:

a wireless transmitter for wirelessly transmitting associated address data for receipt by individual client devices, the address data being configured for use in accessing, via a network, a network-accessible device that wirelessly transmitted the associated address data; and

a connection module for establishing a network link with one or more client devices based upon the wirelessly transmitted address data, said link permitting individual client devices to access a network-accessible device using the associated address data.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein said link comprises a wireless link.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein said link comprises a wired link.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein said link comprises an Internet link.

5. The system of claim 1, wherein said link comprises a wireless Internet link.

6. A system for accessing Internet-connected printers comprising:

one or more Internet-connected printers, individual printers comprising:

a wireless transmitter for wirelessly transmitting associated address data for receipt by individual client devices, the address data being configured for use in accessing, via the Internet, an Internet-connected printer that wirelessly transmitted the associated address data; and

an Internet connection module for establishing an Internet link with one or more client devices based upon the wirelessly transmitted address data, said Internet link permitting individual client devices to access an Internet-connected printer using the associated address data.

7. The system of claim 6, wherein the Internet connection module is configured to establish a wireless Internet link.

8. A network-accessible device comprising:

one or more processors;

one or more computer-readable media;

a wireless transmitter for wirelessly transmitting address data associated with the device, the address data being useable to establish an Internet connection with the device;

an Internet connection module for establishing an Internet connection; and

instructions on the computer-readable media which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the processors to:

transmit address data for the device using the wireless transmitter;

establish an Internet connection using the connection module, the Internet connection being establishable with one or more client devices

that receive the wirelessly transmitted address data, and being based on the wirelessly transmitted address data; and

permit interaction with the device via the Internet connection.

9. The network-accessible device of claim 8, wherein the Internet connection comprises a wireless connection.

10. The network-accessible device of claim 8, wherein the Internet connection comprises a wired connection.

11. The network-accessible device of claim 8, wherein the wireless transmitter comprises a bluetooth transmitter.

12. The network-accessible device of claim 8, wherein the address data comprises at least one URL.

13. An Internet-connected printer comprising:

one or more processors;

one or more computer-readable media;

a wireless transmitter for wirelessly transmitting address data associated with the printer, the address data being useable to establish an Internet connection with the printer;

an Internet connection module for establishing an Internet connection; and

instructions on the computer-readable media which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the processors to:

transmit address data for the printer using the wireless transmitter;

establish an Internet connection using the Internet connection module, the Internet connection being establishable with one or more client devices that receive the wirelessly transmitted address data, and being based on the wirelessly transmitted address data; and

permit interaction with the printer via the Internet connection.

14. A client device comprising:

one or more processors;

one or more computer readable media;

a wireless receiver for receiving wirelessly transmitted address data associated with one or more Internet-accessible devices;

a connection module for establishing an Internet connection; and

instructions on the computer-readable media which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the processors to:

establish an Internet connection using the connection module;

process address data wirelessly received by the wireless receiver from at least one Internet-accessible device; and

establish an Internet link with one or more Internet-accessible devices using the address data.

15. The client device of claim 14, wherein the Internet connection comprises a wireless connection.

16. The client device of claim 14, wherein the Internet connection comprises a wired connection.

17. The client device of claim 14, wherein the instructions cause the processors to establish a wireless Internet connection.

18. The client device of claim 14, wherein the instructions cause the processors to establish a wired Internet connection.

19. The client device of claim 14, wherein the wireless receiver comprises a bluetooth receiver.

20. The client device of claim 14, wherein the address data comprises a URL.

21. A method for accessing network-accessible devices comprising:

wirelessly beaconing address data associated with a particular device, the address data being configured for receipt by one or more client devices so that the one or more client devices can use the address data to establish an Internet link with the particular device for interacting with the particular device; and

establishing an Internet link with one or more client devices based on the wirelessly beaconed address data, said link permitting interaction between the particular device and the one or more client devices.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein said beaconing is performed by the particular device.

23. The method of claim 21, wherein said beaconing comprises using infrared technology to beacon the address data.

24. The method of claim 21, wherein said beaconing comprises using RF technology to beacon the address data.

25. The method of claim 21, wherein said beaconing comprises using bluetooth technology to beacon the address data.

26. The method of claim 21, wherein said address data comprises a URL.

27. The method of claim 21, wherein said establishing the Internet link comprises establishing a wireless Internet link.

28. One or more computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the processors to:

wirelessly beacon address data associated with a network-accessible device, the address data being configured for receipt by one or more client devices so that the one or more client devices can use the address data to establish an Internet link with the network-accessible device for interacting with the network-accessible device; and

establish an Internet link with one or more client devices based on the wirelessly beaconed address data, said link permitting interaction with the one or more client devices.

29. A method for accessing Internet-accessible devices comprising:

discovering one or more Internet-accessible devices by wirelessly receiving one or more URLs associated with and transmitted by the Internet-accessible devices;

establishing an Internet connection with the one or more Internet-accessible devices based on the one or more URLs; and

interacting with the one or more Internet-accessible devices via the Internet connection.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein said establishing comprises establishing a wireless Internet connection.

31. The method of claim 29, wherein said establishing comprises establishing a wired Internet connection.

32. A method of accessing an Internet-connected printer comprising:

wirelessly receiving, with a client device, address data associated with one or more Internet-connected printers;

processing the address data with the client device to establish an Internet link with one or more Internet-connected printers; and

interacting with the Internet-connected printers via the Internet link.

33. The method of claim 32, wherein said wirelessly receiving comprises bringing the client device into close proximity with an Internet-connected printer that is transmitting address data.

34. The method of claim 32, wherein said processing comprises establishing a wireless Internet link using the address data.

35. The method of claim 32, wherein said processing comprises establishing a wired Internet link using the address data.

36. One or more computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by one or more processors on a client device, cause the processors to:

wirelessly receive, with the client device, address data associated with one or more Internet-connected printers;

process the address data with the client device to establish an Internet link with one or more Internet-connected printers; and

interact with the Internet-connected printers via the Internet link.